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infected feeble-minded persons; and creating in each community public sentiment for the enforcement of existing laws and ordinances tending to better civic conditions or for prompt enactment of needed legislation.

3. *Educational measures.*—The dissemination of information by leaflets, lectures, and other means for the purpose of warning everyone of the serious nature of the venereal diseases, informing them that the method of spread of these diseases is by personal contact with infected persons, and urging continence as the only safe procedure for avoiding infection.

These measures have already resulted in decreasing the number of exposures to venereal infections. Yet sex attraction is one of the fundamental instincts of the human race, and some persons will continue to expose themselves to the infection of these communicable diseases. The community is entitled to the protection given by prompt "early treatment" in preventing the development of these potential foci of venereal infections, while it is, in the meantime, strengthening the other medical and civic measures of prevention which the condition may require.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE.

On January 1, 1919, a law went into effect in the Republic of Chile, providing for the organization and administration of a general health service operating under the provisions of a sanitary code. The general health service is authorized by the Government to supervise and direct all branches of health activity and to have authority over the municipal health departments. The service is under the direction of a director general of health, who is required to be a graduate of medicine and surgery and to have had 10 years' medical practice. The office of director general of health is filled by presidential appointment from a list of eligibles presented by scientific bodies of the Republic, and the appointee is expected to devote his full time to the discharge of the duties of his office.

The law also provides for the establishment of a council of hygiene whose functions are purely consultative. Under the direction of the central health administration there is established an Institute of Hygiene, in charge of a director whose qualifications are the same as those of the director general. This institute consists of four departments, viz, hygiene and demography, chemistry and toxicology, bacteriology and microscopy, vaccination and serotherapy.

There is also established a system of regional sanitary service, conducted by sanitary inspectors of zones comprising the various provinces of the Republic. Each zone is under the administration

of a sanitary inspector, resident in a provincial capital, whose duties shall be to enforce all laws and ordinances of public health and to carry out the instructions of the director general. A sanitary inspector must be a graduate of medicine and surgery, and must have had at least three years of practice.

DEATHS DURING WEEK ENDED APRIL 5, 1919, IN CITIES.

The following table shows the registered deaths from all causes and from pneumonia (all forms) and influenza combined, in certain large cities of the United States during the week ended April 5, 1919. The annual death rates per 1,000 population for the week and for the corresponding week of previous years are also shown. Weekly figures fluctuate widely and caution must be used in their interpretation.

The data are taken from the "Weekly Health Index," April 8, 1919, issued by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. The populations used in computing the rates are estimated by the Bureau of the Census as of July 1, 1918.